Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1 - 18 (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A method of treating hypercholesterolemia in a patient, comprising administering a therapeutically effective dose of pyridoxal-5'-phosphate, a 3-acylated analogue of pyridoxal or pyridoxal-4,5-aminal, pyridoxine phosphate analogue, or a mixture thereof, to lower total cholesterol levels.

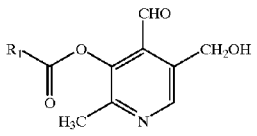
20 - 37 (Cancelled)

38. (New) The method of claim 19 further comprising administering a HMG CoA reductase inhibitor.

39. (New) The method of claim 38 wherein the HMG CoA reductase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of pravastatin, lovastatin, fluvastatin, atorvastatin, simvastatin, rosuvastatin, velostatin, and fluindostatin.

40. (New) The method of claim 39 wherein the HMG CoA reductase inhibitor is simvastatin.

41. (New) The method of claim 19 wherein the 3-acylated analogue of pyridoxal is a compound according to the formula



wherein R_1 is alkyl,

in which alkyl can be interrupted by nitrogen, oxygen, or sulfur, and can be unsubstituted or substituted at the terminal carbon with hydroxy, alkoxy, alkanoyloxy, alkoxyalkanoyl, or alkoxycarbonyl;

alkenyl,

alkoxy;

dialkylamino;

alkanoyloxy;

alkanoyloxyaryl;

alkoxyalkanoyl;

alkoxycarbonyl;

dialkylcarbamoyloxy;

aryl,

in which aryl can be substituted by alkyl, alkoxy, amino, hydroxy, halo, nitro, or alkanoyloxy;

aryloxy;

arylthio; or

aralkyl.

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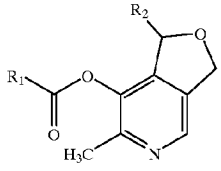
42. (New) The method of claim 19 wherein the 3-acylated analogue of pyridoxal-4,5-aminal is a compound according to the formula



wherein R_1 is

alkyl,

in which alkyl can be interrupted by nitrogen, oxygen, or sulfur, and can be unsubstituted or substituted at the terminal carbon by hydroxy, alkoxy, alkanoyloxy, alkanoyloxyaryl, or alkoxyalkanoyl, alkoxycarbonyl;

alkenyl,

alkoxy;

dialkylamino;

alkanoyloxy;

alkanoyloxyaryl;

alkoxyalkanoyl;

alkoxycarbonyl;

dialkylcarbamoyloxy;

aryl,

in which aryl can be substituted by alkyl, alkoxy, amino, hydroxy, halo, nitro, or alkanoyloxy;

aryloxy;

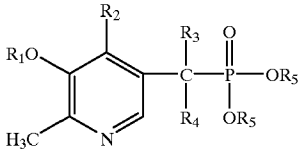
arylthio; or

aralkyl; and

R_2 is a secondary amino group.

43. (New) The method of claim 19 wherein the pyridoxine phosphate analog is a compound according to the formula

(a)



wherein,

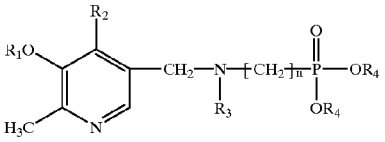
R_1 is hydrogen or alkyl;

R_2 is –CHO, -CH_2OH, -CH_3, -CO_2R_6 in which R_6 is hydrogen, alkyl, or aryl, or –CH_2O alkyl in which alkyl is covalently bonded to the oxygen at the 3-position instead of R_1;

R_3 is hydrogen and R_4 is hydroxy, halo, alkoxy, alkanoyloxy, alkylamino, or arylamino, or R_3 and R_4 are halo; and

R_5 is hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, or –CO_2R_7 in which R_7 is hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, or aralkyl;

(b)



wherein,

R_1 is hydrogen or alkyl;

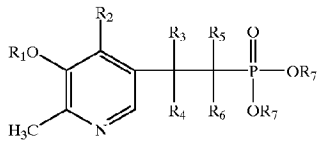
R_2 is –CHO, -CH_2OH, -CH_3, -CO_2R_5 in which R_5 is hydrogen, alkyl, or aryl, or –CH_2O alkyl in which alkyl is covalently bonded to the oxygen at the 3-position instead of R_1;

R_3 is hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, or aralkyl;

R_4 is hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, or -CO_2R_6 in which R_6 is hydrogen, alkyl, aryl or aralkyl; and

n is 1 to 6; and

(c)



wherein,

R_1 is hydrogen or alkyl;

R_2 is –CHO, CH_2OH, -CH_3, -CO_2R_8 in which R_8 is hydrogen, alkyl, or aryl, or –CH_2O-alkyl in

which alkyl is covalently bonded to the oxygen at the 3-position instead of R_1;

R_3 is hydrogen and R_4 is hydroxy, halo, alkoxy, or alkanoyloxy, or R_3 and R_4 can be taken together to form =O;

R_5 and R6 are hydrogen or R_5 and R6 are halo; and

R_7 is hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, or $-CO_2R_8$ in which R_8 is hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, or aralkyl.

44. (New) A method of reducing statin induced hepatotoxicity comprising administering a therapeutically effective dose of pyridoxal-5'-phosphate to a patient wherein the patient is being treated with a HMG CoA reductase inhibitor.

45. (New) The method of claim 44 wherein the HMG CoA reductase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of pravastatin, lovastatin, fluvastatin, atorvastatin, simvastatin, rosuvastatin, velostatin, and fluindostatin.

46. (New) The method of claim 45 wherein the HMG CoA reductase inhibitor is simvastatin.

47. (New) A method of reducing statin induced hepatotoxicity comprising a) detecting alanine transferase in a patient being treated with a HMG CoA reductase inhibitor; and b) co-administering pyridoxal-5'-phosphate with the HMG CoA reductase inhibitor in the patient with increased alanine trasferase.

48. (New) The method of claim 47 wherein the HMG CoA reductase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of pravastatin, lovastatin, fluvastatin, atorvastatin, simvastatin, rosuvastatin, velostatin, and fluindostatin.

49. (New) The method of claim 48 wherein the HMG CoA reductase inhibitor is simvastatin.